(b) if so, the essential features of the scheme;

(c) the additional financial burden envisaged for implementing the scheme;

(d) whether Government propose to bring in legislation on the subject; and

(e) if so, when would the said legislation be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (e) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is in the process of drafing a revised resettlement and rehabilitation policy, namely the National Rehabilitation Policy-2007 (NRP-2007), with the objective to minimize displacement and to promote, as far as possible, non-displacing or least-displacing alternative; ensure adequate rehabilitation packages and expeditious implementation of the rehabilitation process with the active participation of affected persons. This policy, once approved and adopted, would replace the current National Policy on Resettlement & Rehabilitation of Project Affected Families-2003 (NPRR-2003).

A draft of the new policy was circulated to States/UTs for their comments and also put in the public domain on the websites of the Department of Land Resources and Ministry of Rural Development and at the Facilitation Counter of the Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhavan for public comments. A Public Notice in this regard was also published in the prominent National and Regional newspapers. Comments from a few States and Ministries/ Departments of GOI as well as a number of public comments have been received, and the draft NRP-2007 is being finalized. The modalities for giving a statutory backing to the policy are also being worked out.

PMGSY in Maharashtra

1774. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target destinations with population of 250 in hilly, tribal & desert areas are being adequately covered, under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) if so, whether such a connectivity been commissioned or is proposed to be done in the backward and tribal region of Vidarbha;

(c) if so, how many backward and tribal districts, including Yavatmal have been covered; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, roads length-wise, funds allocated and time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 11 districts of Vidarbha region, 4 districts namely Gondia, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli and Yavatmal falls in tribal area. According to information furnished by the State Government, all the habitations with population 250+ in 3 districts namely Gondia, Chandrapur and Yavatmal have been connected in Gadchiroli district, 315 habitations with population of 250 or more have been connected and 82 habitations are unconnected. Out of these 82 unconnected habitations, 17 habitations have been covered under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Phase-V, 30 habitations have been covered under other schemes of State Government & PMGSY and 22 habitations are proposed to be covered under Phase-VI of PMGSY. The remaining 13 habitations are proposed to be connected through schemes of the State Government.

(c) All the districts of Vidarbha region have been covered.

(d) For Gadchiroli district the proposal of new connectivity of habitations with population 250+ under PMGSY (Phase-VI) is as under:

Under Phase-VI	No.	Length	Cost
	22	190kms	3342.40 lacs.

Providing drinking water to 74,000 habitations

1775. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Minister, in his Budget Speech 2005-06 had promised to provide drinking water by 2008-09 to the remaining 74,000 habitations that are uncovered under Bharat Nirman; and

(b) if so, how much money has been utilized to far in the financial year